Weather

Friday Partly Cloudy 97-71

Saturday Mostly Sunny 96-72

Sunday Mostly Sunny 95-72





MRAP armor kit page 3

> **Optimizing Marine** page 3

Independence **Day Celebration** page 4

Marine bikes to fights gas prices page 5

Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps holds Town Hall meetings at Base Theater Friday

Art Powell

PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

Sgt. Maj. Carlton W. Kent, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, spoke to Marines during two town hall meetings held at the Base Theater, Friday.

"I'm here to thank the Marines and the civilians at the base for what they do for our country and Corps. If you look at it, almost every piece of gear that's being sent to combat comes through here," said Kent. "So, I am here to tell them the role of the base is very important," added the 16th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.

Kent explained that he's touring Marine bases and "learning a lot from the Marines."

"They're not shy about speaking up, and if they have issues, I take those back and we work on them," he explained.

During his visit, he held town hall meetings with Marines to share his thoughts about the Marine Corps and to hear their concerns.

"I'm also here to deliver a message from our Commandant, and he's doing great things for our sailors, Marines and their families," he said.

When asked what concerns the Commandant has, he cited taking care of Marines as the top

"Secondly, the focus is what's happening in combat, and getting those Marines all the tools they need to get the mission done," explained Kent, who enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1976 and was assigned to the 1st Marine Brigade upon completion of recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C.

In 1978, he was assigned to the Marine Security Guard Battalion and served at the American Embassy in Kinshasa, Zaire, and later in Panama.

Kent described the Marine men and women as a "great group of people," and outlined concerns they talk to him about when he sees them in town hall meetings.

"It's amazing, but many of them say 'when can I get to combat, so I can be with my brothers and sisters." It doesn't surprise me because every Marine who enters the Corps knows if they stick around long enough, they're going into combat, because the Marine Corps is the nation's 911 force," he said.

The future looks larger for the Marine Corps, Kent explained, saying "we're growing."

"We're growing to a force of 202,000. That's an increase of 27,000 Marines and we'll add them over a period of five years," said Kent.

He added that the Marines aren't offering incentives to attract new recruits in order to achieve the end strength of 202,000.

"Actually, we're not offering anything, except for a few critical jobs that get a few thousand dollars as a sign-up or re-enlistment bonus. The only thing our recruiters offer recruits is a title if you make it through the recruit training. I think that's a challenge for all young kids, that was a challenge for me," he said.

Kent added that when he enlisted, his recruiter offered him nothing except a challenge to be the best.

"That's what I think attracts a lot of kids into the Marine Corps today. Somebody hears the challenge and says to themselves 'you don't think I can make it? You don't think I can make it through Marine Corps boot camp?' You don't have to give me anything because I want to be part of the best," he added.

His town hall meetings at MCLB Albany were conducted in two sessions; sergeants and below and staff noncommissioned officers and officers.

"It was very motivating. I enjoyed hearing his views on things and the answers he gave to a lot of questions," said Lance Cpl. Jasmine administrative Jackson, clerk, Inspector/Instructor staff, Detachment Two, Supply Company, 4th Supply Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group, Marine Forces See **SGTMAJ**



Sgt. Maj. Carlton W. Kent, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, spoke to Marines during two town hall meetings held at the Base Theater, Friday.

Kudos Korner

(presented during May)

Marine Corps Logistics Command

Meritorious Service Medal Col. Flora M. Emerson Maj. Kristina K. Griffin

Capt. Todd M. Sanders Master Gunnery Sgt. Joe H. Lewis Jr. Master Gunnery Sgt. Nathaniel Page Jr.

Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal

Capt. Michael Aguilar CWO2 Robert A. Pokorski Staff Sgt. Charlie J. Cooke

Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal

Staff Sgt. Stacy C. May Sgt. Ryan J. Ardoin Sgt. Owein M. Ramirez

Good Conduct Medal

Master Gunnery Sgt. Daryl Q. Johnson Gunnery Sgt. Kevin J. Hewitt Gunnery Sgt. Leslie A. Inbody Sgt. Wendy J. Deleon Sgt. Evan F. Hege Sgt. Adam C. Jaworski Cpl. Cash A. Burthold

Certificate of Commendation

Sgt. Jay N. Palapac Sgt. Gavin J. Whitehead Pfc. Leonard S. Ilas Terry A. Bogadi Clarence E. Edmunds John A. Galbert William E. Lloyd James A. Smith Kenneth N. Taylor A. D. Thomas Lucious L. Williams

Promotions

(as of June 1)

Marine Corps Logistics Command

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey T. Milazzo Cpl. Joshua R. Webb

Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany

Good Conduct Medal Cpl. Shalanda Y. Carter Cpl. Timothy C. Hanna Cpl. James T. Ross Lance Cpl. Roger B. Shelton

Fort Benning, Ga.

Sgt. James L. Hayes Fort Benning

Marine Corps Systems Command

Master Sgt. Frederick A. Conner

Detachment 2 Lance Cpl. Donald Kidder

Pfc. Shantell Williams

Retirements

(during May)

Master Gunnery Sgt. Nathaniel Page Jr. Master Sgt. Lee Mew

The Kudos Korner runs monthly to recognize those military and civilian personnel who have received awards or been promoted. If you have received an award, been promoted or are retiring, please contact the Public Affairs Office at (229) 639-5479.

Military retirees attend annual Appreciation Day

Joel C. Guenther

PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

On Friday, Marine and Family Services sponsored the annual Military Retiree Appreciation Day. The festivities included a morning health fair in the noncommissioned officer's lounge and luncheon for the retirees in the Bingo Room at the Crossroads Restaurant.

The screenings included tests for blood pressure and diabetes conducted by the Dougherty County Health Department and blood pressure testing from Naval Branch Health Clinic, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany. Additionally, a variety of information was available for the retirees and their spouses including information on chiropractic care, herbal medicines, prostate and breast cancer and hearing difficulties.

Kent Morrison, deputy director, Operations and Training Division, MCLB Albany, opened the program by thanking the retirees for "all that you have done in making this day special. I know that we all agree that we are deeply appreciative for the sacrifices and services that each of you have

Chief Petty Officer Christopher Brown, head of the Business Department at Naval Branch Health Clinic, MCLB Albany, then reviewed the several services offered to retirees by the clinic including optometry, pharmacy, immunizations and Tri-Care For Life.

The program featured two guest speakers. J.K. Barnette is the southwest Georgia program coordinator for the Emory Prevention Research Center, Emory University, Ga. She said the center is engaged in "community-based participator research ... which means that the research is not just the scientists developing it. The goal," she said, "is for the scientists to work with the com-See **RETIREES**.

Hurricane season begins

2nd Lt. Caleb Eames

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Editors Note: Hurricane season began June 1 and ends Nov. 30.

With the start of hurricane season this week, and the first tropical storm of the season already moving through the Caribbean, officials here are prepared for the possibility of hosting evacuees.

"We stand ready to assist our sister installations during their time of need, and we are proud to be able to conduct our daily mission of logistically supporting our tenant commands while simultane-

ously hosting thousands of evacuees from a hurricane stricken area," said Kent Morrison, deputy director of Operations and Training Division, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany.

The Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany maintains agreements with several regional Department of Defense installations to support an evacuation with a secure inland shelter if a hurricane should be forecast to hit.

In the event of evacuation notification at an installation the base has an agreement with, plans are in place for them to bus personnel to MCLB Albany where they can receive shelter, food, water See HURRICANE —

MCLB Albany paving update

The road paving operations aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany commenced on April 28. The first two phases are complete and the third phase will be complete by Friday. The fourth phase will proceed as follows:

Broom Boulevard, in front of the Maintenance Center, will be closed to traffic for repaving from Sixth Street to Radford Street starting Monday through June 20. The intersection of Sixth Street and Broom Boulevard will be open to traffic during these paving operations. The intersection of Radford Street and Broom Boulevard will be open to traffic during these paving operations. All dates are subject to weather delays. For more information call (229) 639-5960/6508.

MCLB Update

Buddy Fishing Tourney

Marine The Logistics Base Albany's Buddy Fishing Tournament will be held on Saturday.

Registration will take place at 7 a.m. Fishing will be from 8 - 10:30 a.m. at Covella

All kids ages 15 and younger must be accompanied by a person of 16 years of age

Reading Program The Base Library is cur-

and weights of the catches.

rently conducting its annual Summer Reading Program. Children can register now.

The program is scheduled to end Aug. 1. For more information, call (229) 639-5242.

4th MLG

Numerous trophies will be 4th Marine Logistics Group awarded based upon gender is presently accepting applica-tions for Marine Corps Reserve leadership positions officer and enlisted.

4th MLG has 70 sites across the United States. For more information call Col. Ray Johnson at (678) 243-9646, ray.johnson@usmc.mil, or Gunnery Sgt. Oretha Whiteside at (504) 678-6505, oretha.whiteside@usmc.mil.

"Building Strong Marriages" Part 4, Maturity

Cmdr. H. E. Ranard

MCLB ALBANY COMMAND CHAPLAIN

It is with the strongest conviction that I say to you: Good marriages don't just happen, they have to be built. That is why I am devoting the next several articles to sharing with you seven "foundation stones" that I believe are necessary to have a marriage strong enough to endure the challenges of life.

Previously, I shared with you that **Stone #1 is love**, the cornerstone of a solid foundation in marriage. In truth, all of the other stones are manifestations of what love is. The other foundation stones are trust, commitment, maturity, communication, knowledge, and teamwork. I think it is pretty obvious why love is chosen to be the cornerstone in the foundation of a good marriage, but love alone is not enough.

Stone #2 – Trust. Marriage is about entrusting our lives to another with the very essence of our being. For me, trust is the barometer that gauges the overall health of the relationship. The stronger the trust, the closer a husband and wife become. Trust is something that takes a great deal of time and effort to build in a relationship, but it can be destroyed in seconds. And once trust has been badly damaged or destroyed, it is almost impossible to rebuild it again. So work hard to build trust, and work even harder to safeguard and keep it.

Stone #3 – Commitment. The cost of true commitment in marriage is high, because it requires totally dedicating oneself to your spouse and that very special and holy relationship. Commitment must come by both intention, a desire and conscious decision to give your very best effort daily to building a healthy and mutually fulfilling relationship; and by attention, to be continuously present in a relationship, giving whatever time and activity is needed to safeguard and nurture that relationship.

Stone #4 – Maturity. By maturity, I am referring to the Biblical principle of being "other-centered" as opposed to "selfcentered." Inmaturity is reflected by a sense of being selfish, of being concerned only about one's own needs and desires and not the needs and desires of one's spouse. An immature spouse is focused more on getting and taking from the relationship rather than giving.

A healthy marriage is one in which there is a balance of both giving and receiving. I often share an illustration using two cups to demonstrate my point. Each spouse is like a cup filled with many special things. If each spouse freely gives unto the other, then no one's cup ever runs dry. But if either spouse chooses to take more than is given in return, then it is just a matter of time before that spouse's cup runs dry. For the spouse who has given but not received in return, then their needs and desires go unmet. Anger and resentment begins to build and it is not long until the relationship begins to fail.

I find that immaturity is most symptomatic in marriages with young spouses. The husband and wife have often not matured beyond the self-centeredness of adolescence. I have also observed that immaturity is more prevalent among young husbands [sorry guys!]. The tragedy is, by the time the couple is willing to seek counseling, a great deal of damage has already been done. Although the husband finally realizes the problem, it is too late to save the marriage.

Building a balance between giving and receiving in a marriage is vital to the health and development of that very special and sacred relationship.

> Sunday School 8:45 a.m. Protestant Worship 10:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study Wednesday 10 a.m.

Crossroads Restaurant Menu

Homemade Pork BBO Chicken Vega Mashed Potatoes Corn on the Cob Green Beans

Friday Baked and Fried Fish Chicken Wings Fried Rice Cheese Grits

Collard Greens Chef's Choice Vegetables

Monday Country Fried Steak w/Gravy

Steamed Rice Broccoli Casserole Field Peas w/Snaps

Tuesday Chicken and Dumplings Sliced Roast Beef w/Gravy Mashed Potatoes Steamed Rice Mixed Vegetables Corn O'Brien

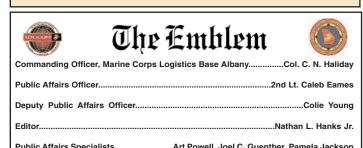
> Wednesday Enchiladas Burritos Tacos Rice and Beans

Chicken Wings Mon.- Fri. al a carte selections and potato bar available.

Frequently called numbers

Base information: 639-5000

AFGE Union	435-3800	Live Oak Lodge	639-5614
Auto Skills Ctr.	639-5226	Medical	639-5976
Barber Shop	432-9485	Navy Federal	435-0595
Base Chapel	639-5282	Navy Relief	439-5246
Base Legal	639-5212	Officer of the Day	639-5206
Base Restaurant	639-5227	Omega Travel	878-2870
Bowling Ctr.	639-5233	Outdoor Activities	639-5221
Child Care Ctr.	639-5765	Pass & ID	639-5200
CHRO	639-5232	Pharmacy	639-5976
Civilian Job Hotline	639-5458	Pharmacy Refill 800	0-628-7427
Commissary	639-5258	Post Office	639-5219
Dental	639-7871	Seven Day Store	438-2555
Dry Cleaners	438-2565	Subway	432-5000
Exchange	888-6801	Theater	639-5166
Family Service Ctr.	639-5276	Thrift Shop	436-2368
Fitness Ctr.	639-6234	Veterinarian	639-5867
Game Warden	639-5188	Young Marines	639-5285
Gymnasium	639-5246	Youth Activity Ctr.	639-5196
ITT	639-8177		



If you need to contact the Public Affairs Office, please call us at (229) 639-5215 or stop

by our office in Building 3500, Room 13. Our mailing address is:

Marine Corps Logisitcs Base

Public Affairs Office

814 Radford Blvd. Suite 20306

Jt's All For You!

The Week Ahead

TROOP APPRECIATION SNCO Lounge Wednesday June 18 4-7 p.m. 639-6236

MIGHI

Base Conference Center Friday, June 27 6:30 p.m. Sign Up 7 p.m. Play 🎇 \$12 per person

Don't forget a "White Elephant" Gift RSVP to the MCCS Main Office 639-5234 by June 25

(includes food)

Base Education Bldg. 3010 starts tonight 9-10 a.m. 639-5162 SMP BARRACKS BASH 10 am. 4 p.m. Two Sand Volleyball Courts (behind the barracks) Food, beverages & games You must be present to win. Tonight's Movie Street Kings R 7 p.m. 639-5166 ALL Service Size of Cheer On Your Team! Bingo Hours Toornght's Movie Street Kings R 7 p.m. 639-5166			1				
Call	• •						
Smart People 639-5246 R 7 p.m. 639-5166	Base Education Bldg. 3010 9-10 a.m. 639-5162 SMP BARRACKS BASH 10 am. 4 p.m. Two Sand Volleyball Courts (behind the barracks) Food, beverages & games You must be present to win. Tonight's Movie Smart People R 7 p.m.	\$1,000 Jackpot starts tonight Bingo Hours Tues-Fri 6:30 p.m. Sat & Sun 2:45 p.m. ALL Tonight's Movie Baby Mama PG13 7 p.m. 639-5166		Call 639-5867 For an appointment 3 on 3 Basketball Tourney Hosted By The Single Maine/ Sailor Pgm. Thomason Gym 3 p.m. Join us to Cheer On		Movie Street Kings R 7 p.m. 639-5166	Crossroads Restaurant 5-8:30 p.m. 639-5234

Coming Soon !

2008 Base Independence Day Celebration July 3, 4-10 p.m.

Food Bouncers Rock Climbing

Fireworks at Dark!!

Silver Wings Parachute Team

Military Vehicles

K-9 Demonstration

ALL

Open to the Public For more information call 639-5268

Special Guest

Miss Georgia 2008

Albany

Dixieland

Marine Band

from Ft. Benning



ITT Trip to Victoryland Shorter, AL Saturday, July 12

Weather you enjoy video games action in a casino or high-speed, fast-action computer Bingo, Quincy's Triple Seven Bingo Casino has it all. And while you're visiting, discover the thrill of the chase! Catch the action trackside, as you wager on live Greyhound Racing.

- Passengers must be 19 years of age
- \$15 per person. Includes roundtrip transportation provided by the base. Depart Marine Corps Exchange Parking Lot at 8 a.m. and return around 9:30 p.m.

Call or stop by the ITT office to sign up by June 16, 639-8177.

MCCS Marketing Hotline 639-5268

MCCS Web site:

MARINE CORPS FAMILY TEAM BUILDING

Scrapbooking Day Saturday, June 21 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Chapel Annex 639-6171

Spouses Midsummer Mingle 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, June 26 Phoebe NW Conference Center 2336 Dawson Road

Georgia Funded Pre-K Program Sign up Now 639-7930

CDC Parent's Night Out Friday, June 27 Call 639-5199 to Sign Up

Mongolian B.B.Q

Crossroads Restaurant Thursday, June 12 5-8:30 p.m.

Open to ALL Hands

Beef \$.75 per ounce Pork **ALL HANDS** Chicken Rice

Please RSVP to the MCCS Assorted Vegetables Main Office at 639-5234.

The SNCO Lounge will be open to ALL Hands for those adults who wish to enjoy the camaraderie of friends and co-workers.

ELIGIBILITY LEGEND

- Open to all Active Duty, Retirees, DoD Civilians, Contractors Reservists and their family members
- Active Duty and their family members Retirees and their family members
- DoD civilians and their family members
- ntractors and their family

Sempertoons

By Gunnery Sgt. Charles Wolf (Ret.)

"I'm the PFC from upstairs, here to pick



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MCA, other agencies help defeat explosively formed pentrator weapons

Art Powell

Public Affairs Specialist

Maintenance Center Albany is helping to meet the armor requirements for protecting Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles from explosively formed penetrators, the latest terrorist threat to vehicles in the theaters of operations.

"This is a joint program, so the Joint Program Office suggested to Tank Army Command in Warren, Mich., that they consider MCA as a production site for the armor work. We went to a meeting with them and said this is something we'd like to do, and we could meet some aggressive timelines they had," said Blasé Goodman, manager, Project Branch, Maintenance Center Albany.

Since MCA had a proven successful track record of working with armor in the past, meeting the \$62 million MRAP armor kit requirement was taken in stride.

"This was another requirement that came to Maintenance Center Albany and they needed 100 kits by the end of February. Of course, we didn't get the hard requirements until January, we slapped the table and expedited those kits and met that requirement, and we've met every production requirement they've put on us since, producing about 100 kits a week," he added.

Besides experience working with other armor programs, including the Frag 5 kit for the humvee, MCA had another asset in place: a relationship with regional vendors who could assist in armor programs.

"We have the processes and procedures in place at MCA to process armor. We have a vendor base within the southwest Georgia area that we can call on to produce some of the piece parts and cut the metal for us. We're the integrator on these kits. We receive the pieces in and do the weld assembly and the coating and packaging of the kit. And then, they're shipped up to an Army depot where the classified components are placed into the kit," said Goodman.

The initial MRAP armor kit program expanded into what it

"Initially, we were tasked with providing armor kits for the Force Protection MRAP variant that the Marine Corps uses. During the design of the kits, the Army completed their design first for the International Military Group MRAP, which is one variant the Army uses. Because of the large number of MRAPs the Army has, they looked to us to assist Rock Island Arsenal in producing the IMG kits," added Goodman.

Production work on the MRAP armor kits, which began in February, should be completed in June, but there could be additional work.

"The initial order was reduced due to the unavailability of some materials, so we're working toward a lower production number," explained Goodman.

Although the kits are designed for Army MRAPs, the kit might be modified to fit Marine Corps MRAPs when some engineering issues are resolved. But each branch of the service which receives the armor kits share a common thread, responding to terrorist threats.

"That's what we're doing with these kits, trying to stay one step ahead of what the insurgents are using. So, as they migrated to the EFP's, this kit was developed to defeat that threat," Goodman said.

"Our folks have put in a great effort again, working six days a week and long hours to meet those production numbers. We've worked through some holidays to meet the requirements," he explained.

Besides designing and fabricating the armor kits, MCA had a role in training Army personnel on how to install them.

"Our Master Gunnery Sergeant (Luis) Cisneros was trained on how to install the kits and went to Camp Liberty in Iraq to show the Army how to do the work," said Goodman.

Another key agency which helps make the MRAP armor program move on-time is MCLB's Garrison Mobile Equipment.

Armor coming into MCA has to be transported to regional vendors for initial cutting, then brought back to MCA for welding and fabrication, then to Defense Logistics Agency for packaging at Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany and finally transported to an Army depot for final configuration before being shipped overseas.

"The maintenance center wanted us to help out by hauling 10-15 loads of armor a day to vendors in the region for initial cutting. Our trucks bring it back to the maintenance center for additional processing," said Clay Jens, supervisor, Motor Vehicle Operator, Garrison Mobile Equipment, Logistics Support Division, MCLB Albany.

"When DLA packages the kits, then MCA calls us to let us know there's a (10-kit) load ready to go," added Jens.



Al Lundy, left, and Kenneth Stocker build an armor kit shipping box in the Defense Distribution Center Albany

"We're running about two truck-loads of finished kits a week from MCA," he said.

With 100 kits per week being produced, and GME trucks transporting 20 of them, the bulk of the transportation to Kentucky is accomplished using commercial truck lines, but MCA officials saw capacity at GME that could be used to reduce the cost.

"After meeting with managers at MCA, one thing we talked about was better utilization of the equipment we have here on base. We have road trucks (at GME) and we can lease others," said Burnett Sutton, production controller, Project Branch, MCA.

"We've been transporting approximately 560,000 pounds of armor every week since Feb. 28, and our drivers are doing an excellent job, even working long hours, six days a week with mandatory overtime," added Sutton, who

has 42 years of service at MCLB Albany, 35 years of it at

the Army.

"Since we have the drivers, and the vehicles are already leased by the maintenance center, instead of just letting those vehicles sit, and we're paying for them, we might as well use

Designing a shipping container sturdy enough to support a kit weighing more than two tons fell upon the Defense Logistics Agency at MCLB Albany.

Similar to the approach MCA took by looking at its past armor successes, such as the Frag 5 armor kit, DLA looked at the Frag 5 shipping container to get ideas for the MRAP "First, I go look at the item, measure it and ask how it

needs to be packed. On the MRAP box, they wanted to lift some items out of the box, so I had to build a pallet to go inside the box," said Alvin Lundy, woodworker, DDAG, who first worked at DDAG in 1983.

"We started with the Frag 5 kit, but it was too big and we had to downsize it a little bit," he added.

Overall, Lundy and his co-workers needed approximately two hours to determine how to modify the Frag 5 kit to meet MRAP shipping requirements.

"We had to have a prototype built, and once they were approved, the box shop started building them," said Judy

Welders in the Maintenance Center Albany welding shop prepare Mine Ambush Protected vehicle armor kit components prior to the kits being shipped to

Knight, supply technician, DDAG, who completed the cost estimate for each packing box and met with MCA officials to move the process toward completion.

Another stop for MRAP armor kits here includes the welding shop where armor is welded into usable parts.

"We have five teams running and each team is working on one MRAP armor kit. It takes us about two to two and a half hours to weld a kit," said Anthony Bignotti, team lead, day shift, Welding Shop, MCA.

When a kit is sent from MCA to DLA for shipping, Ricky Kennedy, supervisor, MRAP armor project, and his team get "We make sure everything that's supposed to be in that kit

is in there, and that it's got a good paint job. There are about 30 major pieces in the kit, and many smaller ones," said

"If the kits are ready to go in the morning, they are usually out of the gate and on the road that afternoon," said Maj. Kent Wheeler, commander, Defense Distribution Center, Albany.

"The Army inserts the final components into the kit and sends it to the theater of operations," he added.

"We've developed a good working relationship with Maintenance Center Albany when it comes to box and kitting process like this, and we've partnered with them to support the ultimate customer, who is the warfighter," he said.

Marine optimizes information flow

Joel C. Guenther

Public Affairs Specialist

Capt. William G. Slack might be considered one of your more cerebral Marines. Although he has to qualify with the pistol, meet physical standards for both Physical Fitness Tests and Combat Fitness Tests, and look the "look" of the Marine, Slack spends much of his spare time thinking of Gailbraith's perspectives on information processing and then applying those ideas to computational organization modeling in order to optimize information processing.

Many other units throughout the Marine Corps have employed elements of Six Sigma and LEAN to their logis-

tical maintenance processes with a high degree of success. Those efforts have increased productivity, streamlined maintenance functions and reduced errors.

Slack's perspective, however, applies computational modeling to the information process rather than production.

In an article titled "Beyond LEAN and Six Sigma," published in "Defense Acquisition Review Journal," Slack and three other authors argued, and then tested, a model for applying computational processes in maximizing information processing for specific work projects, thereby reducing meeting times, throughput operations and allowing people to spend more time "working on engine maintenance and

less time exchanging information in meetings."

Working with Joel J. Hagen, Roxanne Zolin and John Dillard, Slack and the others wrote, "By improving the quality of the organization and the flow of information through that organization, the quality of the organization's output can be improved."

In this study, they tested seven possible interventions scored from the baseline. The purpose was to increase efficiency in F414 aircraft engine maintenance.

What Slack and the others found is that "four of the seven interventions would be beneficial to reducing throughput duration," thereby saving both time and money.

The results of the study led to several recommendations including reducing the meeting frequency, combining morning meetings and combining end-of-day meetings.

In another study titled, "You've Optimized Your Process ... Now Optimize Your Organization," published in "Defense AT&L," the authors tested five variables, finding that four of the five could lead to reduced throughput time.

Slack and the other authors concluded, "Our research shows that computational organizational modeling—like the tools associated with Theory of Constraints, LEAN and Six Sigma—can help managers identify opportunities for improving their organizations."

Slack said, "that in production/maintenance lines, only

so many people can work within a small area. If you add people, productivity drops.'

However, should you work on optimizing other concerns, such as optimizing communications, additional gains can be made.

Slack also noted that the modeling process can be used in almost any

work environment.

"This allows you to put through a computer simulation, a lot of differ-



ent scenarios that if you were allowed to go into an organization and implement each of those things individually, it will take time, money and, if it fails, then you're out," he said. "With this we could electronically test different variables without the risk."

Slack summarized his work. "What you are trying to do is a lot of the hard grunt work in a venue where it's not going to have a negative effect on an organization."

The Emhlem June 5, 2008 - 4

Summer temperatures means monitor heat flag conditions

Pamela Jackson

PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

As the summer heat index continues to rise, everyone needs to pay attention to the flag conditions here and understand what they mean.

There are five conditions listed for the heat flag warnings from least to most severe.

They are: no flags under 80 degrees; green for 80 to 84.9 degrees; yellow for 85 to 87.9 degrees; red for 88 to 89 degrees and black for 90 degrees and above.

"It is important to note that some of these flag conditions have extremely small, 2-3 degree ranges. That means that temperatures can rise right though, from yellow to black, in less than the flag station operators observation interval," said John Sorenson, industrial hygienist, Risk Management Office, Public Safety Division, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany.

It is important to note that extreme conditions can lead to serious problems such as dehydration, heat exhaustion and stroke.

There are six flag stations aboard the base that indicate the current heat conditions and are based upon the Automated Heat Stress System.

The AHSS is a wet-bulb globe temperature meter that consists of three factors; ambient air temperature, humidity and the temperature of an object that absorbs the maximum heat possible

Flag stations are located at the Naval Branch Medical Clinic, Fleet Support Division, Marine Corps Police Department, Maintenance Center Albany, Garrison Mobile Equipment and Building 3500. Each section is responsible for assigning their own personnel to change the flags closest to their stations based on weather conditions.

"The white box containing the computer system that analyzes and sends the updates to the MATCOM Apps 12 server is enclosed in a fenced area behind wing 300 of Building 3500," said Terry Atteberry, customer technical representative, Customer Service Branch, Communication Information Systems Division, MCLB Albany. "The data is then retrieved and put into a spreadsheet and each section is responsible for monitoring the information and sending proper personnel to make the flag changes as required."

This spreadsheet and Base Order 6200.1K dated Feb. 7, 2007, can be found on the MCLB Albany web site by going to www.ala.usmc.mil/flags/.

"The most current flag condition can be obtained from the base web site which updates every 30 minutes, whereas the flags are updated hourly," said Sorenson.

For more information, call (229) 639-5249.

from page 1

Reserve, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, after attending a session.

"Him stating that the Marines of today aren't that different from the Marines of yesterday, that meant a lot," she added.

Another town hall attendee was Sgt. Veronica Robledo, administrative clerk, Inspector/Instructor staff, Detachment Two, Supply Company, 4th Supply Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group, Marine Forces Reserve, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany.

"It was actually motivating since he talked about how he sees Marines re-enlisting at a higher rate than he's ever seen before. He

talked about Iraq and a lot of things I really wanted to hear about," she said.

Keeping recruiting standards high was one point that resonated with Sgt. Terrell Kelly, supply technician, Marine Corps Systems Command, at the town hall meeting.

"I think it's a great idea that the commandant and the sergeant major aren't lowering standards in the Marine Corps while they're upping the numbers in the Corps," he said.

"It feels good to know that our leaders are headed in the right direction as far as the Long War and getting everybody deployed who's in the Marine Corps," he added.

SGTMAJ -

munities to develop and design the research and, then, when we find something out, we want to share it with the community."

The focus of Barnette's presentation was on cancer prevention. Barnette said that, traditionally, cancer research has given precedence to tobacco use. But now, they are trying to "focus more on obesity issues more and more." She noted that the clinic is now in the third stage of development, meaning that they now know that "if we make certain changes in our environment, it will help us to be healthier."

Barnette said that there are a number of things people can do to improve their health including establishing a health goal, asking others who have become more fit what they did to achieve that level of fitness, exercising with a partner, drinking four glasses of water a day, eating more fruits and vegetables, getting a health screening, quitting tobacco use and just doing things for fun.

Derek J. Heard, M.D., again thanked the veterans and their spouses for the sacrifices they made for their country. The focus of Heard's presentation was on heart disease and stroke and "the kinds of things we need to do to make us a little bit healthier."

Heard noted that heart disease is the number one cause of death in the nation and that the southeast region of the nation, including Georgia, from page 1

leads the nation in deaths due to heart disease. He also said that stroke is the third leading cause of death and the southeast region once again leads the nation.

Heard suggested taking several steps toward stopping heart disease and stroke. He told the audience to see your doctor, control your weight and stop using tobacco if you do use tobacco. He also added that two additional risk factors are unavoidable. Women over the age of 55 are at risk because of a reduction in estrogen in their bodies, and men over 40 years of age are at risk.

As a result, Heard said, "We all will have an identifiable risk factor for heart disease and stroke some time in our lifetime, even if we run five miles a day, even if we ate all of the fruits and vegetables we can, even if we are not cholesterol addicts eating at McDonald's every day." Heard emphasized seeing your doctor and

holding the doctor accountable for your health. He said, "Today is the day you decide you don't want to be overweight anymore. I'm not going to smoke anymore, because I don't want to be at risk. I'm going to see my doctor on a regular

To drive the point home, Heard asked, "Is living to see my grandchildren and great grandchildren grow up and prosper and become citizens, is that more important than taking one pill a day?"

HURRICANE

and sanitary facilities for as much as several weeks if necessary, said Morrison.

MCLB Albany maintains agreements with Jacksonville Naval Training Center, Naval Air Station Pensacola, and Marine Corps Central Command in Tampa.

In addition, the base maintains agreements with Marine Forces Reserve Headquarters in New Orleans, La., and Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Eastern Recruiting Region, Parris Island, S.C.

The largest potential site to affect MCLB Albany would be an evacuation from Parris Island, in which case we could see an influx of up to 11,000 recruits and support staff. The last time the base hosted an evacuation was in 2005 when trainees from Pensacola arrived prior to Hurricane Katrina. In 1999, the base hosted about 7,000 recruits from Parris Island, S.C.

*Hurricane Season

In the Atlantic, Caribbean, Central Pacific and Gulf of Mexico, hurricane season runs from June 1 to Nov. 30. The Eastern Pacific hurricane season runs from May 15 to Nov. 30. Hurricanes can, and do, form before and after the official hurri-

from page 1 cane season. Typhoons occur in every month of

the year, more frequently than in the Atlantic basin, but are most common in the summer and fall months.

*Saffir-Simpson Scale

Developed in the early 1970s by Herbert Saffir, a consulting engineer, and Robert Simpson, then director of the National Hurricane Center, the Saffir-Simpson Scale is a measure of hurricane intensity on a scale of 1 to 5. The scale categorizes potential wind damage.

Category 1 74 – 95 mph Category 2 96 – 110 mph Category 3 111 – 130 mph Category 4 131 – 155 mph Category 5 155 + mph

*Hurricane Watch

Hurricane conditions are possible in a specified coastal area within 36 hours.

*Hurricane Warning

Hurricane conditions are expected in a specified coastal area within 24 hours.

*Tropical Depression A tropical cyclone in which the maximum sus-

tained surface winds are 38 mph or less. It may form slowly from a tropical disturbance or a from a tropical wave. *Tranical Starm

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h the

тторгош экотти сопционь are possible in a specified coastal area generally within 36 hours



Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany Thursday, July 3 Boyett Park/Covella Pond Fun begins at 4 p.m. FREE and Open to the Public

> Special Guest Miss Georgia 2008 Sponsored by Palmyra Healthcare

> > Fun for

Kidsl

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Food Vendors open, Inflated 4 p.m. Attractions & Rock Climbing Wall, Military Vehicles on Display

5:30 p.m. **Dixieland Band** 6 p.m. Jazz Ensemble K-9 Demonstration

Silver Wings Parachute Team 6:30 p.m. From Ft. Benning will drop in

7:30 p.m. K-9 Demonstration 8 p.m. **Concert Band** 8:45 p.m. **Colors**

Fireworks will begin at approximately 9 p.m.

Bring your blankets and lawn chairs! No Weapons or Knives, No Pets, No Coolers. Appropriate Civilian Attire. Bags Subject to Inspection.



639-5268

Community **Events**

Albany, Ga.

June

Bards, Jongleurs, Roconteurs, Griots, Storytellers and Puppeteers June 4

10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Albany Museum of Art (229) 439-8400

Wildcats vs. ThunderBirds June 7 Albany Civic Center (229) 435-5200

Pirates of the Flint Camp June 9-13 Flint RiverQuarium (229) 639-2650 x 226

Full Blown Blues Fridays Albany Museum of Art

Josie Bailey June 13

(229) 439-8400

Tallulah Massey Library (229) 420-3250 or Westtown Library (229) 420-3280

Wildcats vs. Firecats June 14 Albany Civic Center (229) 435-5200

The Big Band Sound June 14 The Albany Chorale (229) 317-6854

Teeny Tiny Tidbit Tales, Deborah Strahorn June 16 Central Library (229) 420-3200

Bug Festival Camp June 16-20 Flint RiverQuarium (229) 639-2650 x 226

July

Independence Day Celebration July 3 MCLB Albany Covella Pond (229) 639-5268

Breakfast with the Cheetahs July 5 Parks at Chehaw (229) 430-5277

Monsters of the Deep Camp July 7-11 Flint RiverQuarium (229) 639-2650 x 226

Wildcats vs. Oklahoma City Yard Dawgz July 12 Albany Civic Center (229) 435-5200

** Events are subject to change; please call ahead to confirm details of any event or activity.

Robins Air Force Base

Operation Macon Relief is collecting items for the victims of the Mother's Day tornado. Items include: baby items, children clothes (ages one – 17 years old), men and women clothing (18 years and older), any size shoes, cleaning products, disposable towels/rags, canned goods, dry goods, non-perishable food items and bottled water. Drop box locations: fitness center, fitness center annex, Wynn Dining, AAFES Main Exchange, commissary and MPF. For more information call (229) 926-

Eight-ball pool tournament Community Center June 18 and 19, final competition on June 20 5 - 8 p.m.

Please register by June 16 For more information, call (229) 926-2105

Quarterly table tennis tournament Community Center June 16

5 - 8 p.m.

Draw is limited to 16 players, is open to all Robins AFB users. Please pre-register by June 12. For more information, call (229) 926-2105

Atlanta Falcons presale tickets Information, Tickets and Travel

For more information, call (229) 926-2945

Atlanta Braves VIP ticket packages For only \$50 (a \$300 value) limited supply For more information, call (229) 926-2945

Special Sunday skeet June 15 Noon - 6 p.m.

For more information, call (229) 926-4733 A dog obedience class

Every Thursday 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (229) 926-2110

Fort Benning, Ga.

June

Fathers Day Brunch Benning Club June 15 For more information, call (706) 682-0640.

Reverse Sprint Triathlon June 7 Registration for this event is open until the start of the race. For more information visit

www.benningmwr.com or call

For more information call (706)

(706) 527-2393. June 22 Fishing at Russ Pond 9 a.m. - 1 p.m June 17 at 6 p.m. Outdoor For more information call (706) Reservations for the equipment are required by June 3.

Camp Courage

545-9636.

June 2 - August, 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Registration is free but space is limited. For more information, call (706) 545-3605.

Bunco tournament The Benning Club June 19 at 6 p.m. Registration is required For more information, call (706) 682-0642.

Archery Shoot The Uchee Creek Archery Club

CG Golf Scramble June 26

8 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Fort Benning Golf Course To register, call (706) 687-1940

Celebrate Independence Day June 28 York Field Free concert by the Commodores, Gary Nichols and Katie Rae Davis. UFC Fighters will make a special appearance and give free demonstrations. The Silver Wings and the 197th Infantry will display their exceptional military talents. The festivities start at 3 p.m. and is open to the general public. For more information visit www.benningmwr.com.

** Events are subject to change; please call ahead to confirm details of any event or activity.

Marine fights high gas prices with pedal power



Maj. Kent Wheeler, commander, Defense Distribution Depot, Albany, demonstrates the bicycle skills he uses to ride to work everyday. He peddles to protest high gasoline prices and his 18 mile ride to work, one-way, has helped him lose weight. Wheeler's habit motivated a Marine working in DDAG to also begin biking to work.

Art Powell

PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

When Maj. Kent Wheeler, commander, Defense Distribution Center Albany, heads out the door to go to work most mornings, he doesn't get into his car. He gets on his bicycle and starts the 18 mile ride to the office.

"It costs me about \$60 to gas up my car, and I did that about four or five times a month," he said. "So I decided I wasn't going to put up with that any longer, and started riding my bike to work. Now, I fill up my car about one or two times a month, and the savings are already sub-

While everyone is affected by the rising price of fuel, either directly at the pump or indirectly by anything that is dependent on transportation to deliver, Wheeler decided to fight back.

"Other people have started using public transportation or a motorcycle, but this (riding a bicycle) was my choice," explained Wheeler, who arrived at Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany in

"I've been racing bikes for years, so this is a natural thing for me. It only took me a couple of days of biking to work to realize that I really enjoy doing it," he said.

Wheeler, who leaves home before 6 a.m. to make the journey, arrives at work before 7 a.m. each day.

"I take it easy. I have a light reflector on my bike, and try to stay away from heavy traffic areas. My biggest problem is people backing out of driveways," he continued.

Wheeler said biking when he was in other areas of the United States presented more problems with motorists than in Albany

"Southwest Georgia is just more laid back, people aren't always in a rush," he explained.

When the weekend arrives, Wheeler doesn't put away his bike. He rides between 60-100 miles per day on the weekend, in addition to "taking the scenic route" on his ride home from work during

"You'll never see a basket on this bike," he said when explaining that his bike is built for racing, not hauling groceries.

Besides saving money, Wheeler lost approximately 12 pounds in the first two weeks of his biking-to-work training program and lifestyle change.

"It's been a combination of exercising and watching what I eat. And right now, I'm having a hard time eating all the food I'm supposed to eat," explained the Tampa, Fla., native.

But, he says, it's easy to eat all the food you don't need.

"Some people do a 50-mile ride, then go to McDonald's and eat two Big Macs," said Wheeler, a trim 41-year-old, who became a serious cyclist about 10 years ago.

He plans to return to racing later this summer, after reaching the physical standards he desires, through riding and diet.

Wheeler's example has inspired an employee in the distribution center to also start riding a bicycle to work to save money and get into shape.

"I saw what the major was doing, and being a Marine, I wanted to stay in shape and one way to save your knees is to ride every day," said Sgt. Qieth McQureerir, supply administrative clerk, DDAG, who rides approximately 12 miles to work each day.

McQureerir has also shed approximately 25 pounds since he began riding his bike to work. He is saving money as well, having recovered the purchase price of his bike in the first month he began riding it to work.

"The bike cost me \$289, and my gas bill was about \$300 a month, so that paid for the bike and I'm in good shape," he added.

"If you want to save gas, buy a bike," concluded McQureerir.



Marines visit Slater King Adult Day Care

Cpl. Misty Seligman, administrative clerk, G-1, Adjutant, Marine Corps Logistics Command, cheers on her partner at Slater King Adult Day Care during a Marine volunteer trip to help with activity day Friday.

Lance Cpl. Scott Hawkins, financial budget technician, Programs and Resources Division, LOGCOM, watches for the next set of instructions in the background.

Marine receives Meritorious Service Medal, gold star in lieu of second award

Col. Flora Emerson, director, Supply Chain Management Center, Marine Corps Logistics Command, receives a Meritorious Service Medal, gold star in lieu of second award, from Maj. Gen. Willie J. Williams, commanding general, LOGCOM on May 28, for her service from October 2007 to May 2008.

In part, the citation said that Emerson "was responsible for a 99 percent reduction in delinquent small arms shipments."



JOEL C. GUENTHER

Ribbon cutting ceremony



CYNTHIA JOHNSON

Maj. Gen. Willie J. Williams, commanding general, Marine Corps Logistics Command, cuts ribbon at LOGCOM's Maintenance Assistance Team facility in Bldg. 7121 at Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Friday. Master Gunnery Sgt. Bessie Reggans, former SNOCIC at the unit, assisted. The unit was formally known as the Marine Corps Technical Assistance Team. The new group is comprised of 52 military maintenance personnel in 17 MOSs and provides rapidly deployable technical assistance and maintenance management support for ground weapons systems to ennance the operating forces' equipment

Pallet recycling "goes green"

Public Affairs Specialist

The newest addition to the list of environmentally friendly activities here is a newly-revitalized pallet recycling program.

"This is all about landfill diversion, which means we want to stop pallets from the base going to the landfill," said Robert Metts, manager, Pollution Prevention Program, Environmental Branch, Installation and Environment Branch, MCLB Albany.

"We have a contractor who comes to the base and purchases the pallets from us and that saves us having to go to the landfill. Then, the contractor rebuilds them and puts them out for reuse. That saves time and money for Garrison Mobile Equipment and helps us get credit for reducing how much we take to the landfill," he added.

Under the previous program, the pallets were collected and rebuilt on base, then sold to the tenants.

"Solid waste is taken to the Dougherty County landfill, and it costs \$29 a load. This "green" program is all about landfill diversion now, not the money," said Metts.

The previous program was discontinued following manpower cuts and, from that point on, used pallets were merely thrown into dumpsters

and they ended up in the land-

April marked the start of the new program as base officials stress they wanted to "go green" with pallets, to match existing "green" programs for the disposal of toner cartridges, paper, cardboard, batteries and used oil at the base.

Tenants that produce used pallets are asked to stack the pallets and contact the Environmental Branch to establish a pick-up schedule.

"Our recycling personnel will collect the pallets, then, when we get 400 pallets, we call the contractor who comes to get them," said Metts.

He explained that a trip not taken to the landfill by a base vehicle means savings on operating costs.

Disposing pallets in an environmentally friendly manner is the first step in disposing scrap lumber aboard base in a similar fashion.

"We're looking for a contactor to take the scrap wood, and maybe they could use it in an incinerator to heat their pallet drying operation,"

"Nine hundred and seventy three tons of

wood from the base went to the landfill last year, and most of it was pallets," said John Topper, environmental protection specialist, Environmental Branch. "We pay \$27 a ton to place it in the landfill,

and what they do with it is chip it up and then give it away," he added.

The "tipping fee" for placing waste in the Dougherty County landfill is a savings for the base, along with the operating and labor costs associated with transporting a load to the land-

"That money will stay here with the pallet program, and we'll also make money by selling the pallets. But the real benefit is diverting material from the landfill," added Topper.

> Shaw, pollution prevention Environmental Branch, Installation and Division, Corps Logistics Base Albany, moves pallets as part of a "green" program to recycle them instead of transporting them to the Dougherty landfill. Pallets are the addition latest other grams

ART POWELL the base.

Forklift Operator John **Environment** Marine County to "green" prounderway at |

Red Devils take it to Weapons

Joel C. Guenther

PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

On May 29, the Red Devils and Weapons softball Teams squared off at the softball field

Kenneth "Bruce Bruce" Bruce for the Red Devils faced down Thomas "Tom" Traxler, ace

The Devils came up first in the game. After an easy first out, things started happening for the Devils. A shot down the

placed a runner on first base right-center field left runner bobbled ball sent a runner fr so, this left only first base of

A hard shot went by the s brought in a run. Then a sho the pitcher left runners on so with, now, two outs. A liner retired the side for the Devil they brought in the one run.

This would prove to be for lived.

Weapons began their half with a base hit, followed by field, which was misjudged, around the pathway for an ii home run for Jonathon Whit

ball in left field this time, lett runners on second and third with one out.

Still in the first inning, W another run with a sacrifice third base scoring one run w runners on first and third and two outs. A hard hit ball dov third scored another run, the another, leaving Weapons af the first inning with a 5-1 le

In the second inning, the Devils got an early hit, but t swung into a double play. Tl threatened with a double to ter field, but couldn't bring i the runner. Weapons again threatened but couldn't make happen.

The Devils could not put together any other threats in une third inning, but Weapons



strung together a couple of hits before a hard

hit ball and fast running scored three runs on a

Neither team did much for the remainder of

home run leaving the score at 8-1, Weapons.

the game until Weapons added a few more in

DIG SHOW TO THE HEADEVILS LAGS A runner for Weapons in a losing effort 11-





strokes during one of t Special Operation Traini. Group's Scout Swimme Course's physical tests Kin Red May 20. The te required the Marines swim more than 2,0 meters against the curre in less than one hour usi just their legs while do ning a combat loa

Sgt. David Stiehler ba

Americans, French gather to recognize historic contribution of Belleau Wood Marines

Sgt. Rocco DeFilippis
MARINE FORCES EUROPE

BELLEAU, France — More than 200 Marines and Sailors from numerous commands joined together with thousands of French locals at the World War I Aisne-Marne American Cemetery and Memorial near the tiny village of Belleau, France to mark the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Belleau Wood during a Memorial Day ceremony May 25.

Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James T. Conway joined Vice Chief of Staff for the French Army Gen. Elrick Irastorza and American Ambassador to France Craig Stapleton to pay tribute the American and French soldiers and Marines who gave their lives in the defense of liberty.

The ceremony featured speeches and wreath presentations by the distinguished guests, poetry readings from local students, and performances by the French Army Band, the U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and Silent Drill Platoon.

"Throughout our Nation's life, magnificent heroes have fought for our and others freedom in places like the wheat fields of Belleau Wood, the snows of Chosin in Korea, and the jungles of Vietnam," Conway said during his speech. "On this Memorial Day, I salute the fighting men and women of all services and their families. It is fitting that we, as a nation, take the time to honor those who have given all in defense of their country."

Nearly 4,000 local nationals, tourists, service members and family members were present at the ceremony. At the reception that followed, American and French men and women took time to enjoy camaraderie and champagne at the Bulldog Fountain in Belleau, also a site of pilgrimage for Marines

"As a Marine, (the event) was important because it is our history," said Gunnery Sgt.
Miguel Barrera, adjutant chief for Marine Corps
Forces Europe. "Seeing the passion and gratitude that the French displayed for us as Marines made it clear that...freedom is something that we must

continue to pursue throughout the world."

"For the people here, it is a great opportunity to strengthen the Franco-American friendship," said Herreman Alexandre, a local and collector of World War I memorabilia. "We look forward to this day each year. It is a very grand day."

In addition to the memorial ceremony, the trip gave the Marines and their families the opportunity to walk in the foot steps of the Devil Dogs who fought at Belleau Wood and the surrounding towns during a guided professional military education town

During a battlefield PME the Marines and their families were visited places like Hill 142, a strategic hill that secured an important flank of Belleau Wood itself; Lucy le Bocage, a small village that served as an important command center during the battle; Bouresches, a vital village on the right flank of the wood that was the site of fierce combat; and Belleau Wood itself, where the Marines helped turn the tide of World War I by stopping the Germans in their advance to Paris.

"To not have served in combat and actually walk on hollowed grounds at the battle site, clearly gave me the perspective on how brutal the fog of war can really be," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Kurt Garcia, Marine Forces Europe administration quality assurance officer-in-charge. "To actually see trenches, fox holes, machine gun nests and trees that have obvious scarring from blasts by artillery shells, still in existence after 90 years is truly remarkable and something I will never forget."

Overall, the two-day event gave the Marines and their family members the opportunity to pause and reflect on those who have gone before and to honor the men and women who today, stand in defense of freedom and liberty around the world.

"During the battle, it was clear to me that our Marines had unimaginable circumstances to overcome," Garcia said. "It gives me great pleasure to know that today; we still have men and women willing to put themselves in harms way in protecting our freedoms and way of life."



Sgt. Rocco DeFil

Marines from the Commandant's Own, the United States Marine Corps Drum a Bugle Corps, perform a concert for the more than 4,000 people gathered at a Memorial Day service at the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery and Memorial Belleau, France. This year marked the 90th Anniversary of the Battle of Belle Wood.



Sgt. Rocco DeFilipp

During a Memorial L reception at Bulldog Fountain Belleau. Franc Commandant of t Marine Corps James T. Conway pro ents Vice Chief of St for the French Ari Gen. Elrick Irastol with an engraved I Bar fighting knife as symbol continu Franco-America friendship.

Task Force 2/7 dedicates camp after MoH recipien

Cpl. Ray Lewis

Task Force 2d Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division

CAMP BARBER, Afghanistan — The Marines now have a place to call their own.

On May 11, Task Force 2d Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division dedicated its camp here as Camp Barber in honor of Col. William E. Barber, a Medal of Honor recipient who served with 2/7 during the Korean War.

Task Force Commander Lt. Col. Richard Hall and Sgt. Maj. Matthew B. Brookshire presided over the dedication ceremony, which reflected the pride and ownership Marines are traditionally proud of displaying.

"We're proud of our heritage; we're proud of being Marines," said Brookshire, adding the camp was named after an outstanding and well-deserving Marine from the battalion's heritage.

Col. Barber was a captain when he earned the Congressional Medal of Honor — the nation's highest military award for combat heroism. He led his company in a desperate five-day defense of a frozen mountain pass vital to the 1st Marine Division's breakout to the sea, according to his award citation.

He was wounded while fighting sub-zero temperatures against overwhelming odds. Yet, he reportedly refused evacuation and remained in command of his company.

His actions merited the Medal of Honor presented to him by President Harry S. Truman during a ceremony held at the White House on August 20, 1952. He passed away April 19, 2002.

In his honor, the Marines unveiled a marquee that dons the camp's heroic name. It rests at the camp's front entrance, which also features an American flag and a Marine Corps flag that are raised each morning at dawn and lowered at dusk

"It's one of those motivating things," Sgt. Maj. Brookshire said. "It adds the Marine flavor to the overall camp itself... we fly our flags high here as you can see."

Lieutenant Gen. Samuel T. Helland, commander of Marine Corps Forces Central Command and commanding general of I Marine Expeditionary Force, was the ceremony's guest speaker. Also in attendance were Maj. Gen. Thomas D. Waldhauser, commanding general, 1st MarDiv, and Sergeants Major Dennis W. Reed, MARCENT/I MEF, and Randall Carter, 1st MarDiv, who traveled to Afghanistan with the

The MARCENT commander highlighted the ceremony when he combat meritoriously promoted Cpl. Peter R. Villanueva of Weapons Company, and Lance Corporals Jason L. Claunch and James D. Doherty, both of Company F, to their current ranks.

"I felt honored because here's a general taking his time to promote a lance corporal," said Lance Cpl. James D. Doherty of Company F, who was also pinned by the general. "I was kind of nervous because it's a three-star general. I didn't want to trip over my feet or anything. It'd be embarrassing. I just wanted to be my best."

Doherty said he was motivated by the promotion, and plans to pick up his next rank much faster.

"I wasn't supposed to pick up lance corporal until August, so this gives me a lot more motivation to pick up corporal meritoriously," he said. "To get promoted here shows we're making footsteps. The dedication means the Marine Corps is breaking new ground all over the world."

Another Marine was completely surprised to hear that he would be getting promoted by the general as well.

"It was pretty outrageous. I found out maybe two hours before formation," said Lance Cpl. Jason L. Claunch of

Claunch said he now has a new found confidence and also the drive to pick up corporal by January.

"You can say that it motivated me. It kind of brought out the sense of pride that comes with being a Marine," Claunch said.

The final Marine to be promoted on this momentous occasion was Cpl. Peter R. Villanueva of Weapons Company. As he and the other two Marines stood proudly in front of Lt. Gen. Helland, it was evident that their promotions played a significant role in the dedication ceremony itself.

"It's something big for a Marine to be promoted on a camp just prior to its dedication ceremony," said Headquarters and Service Company 1st Sgt. James A. Colon, who acknowledged other Marines promoted here on May 1 before the camp's official dedication.

"I want it to be known that they, too, are a part of the Marine Corps' history," Colon said. "How often can you say that you were one of the first Marines promoted at Camp

The first Marines to be promoted to their current ranks here were Lance Corporals German A. Hoyos and Mark W. Richardson, Corporal Brandon W. Dion, and Sergeants Victor M. Perez, Donald O. Critchlow and Mackenzie P. Thompson.



Barber

chief said seeing the dedication and promotions brought his

27-year Marine Corps career full circle.

"It feels like the last part of a long 'Ooh-rah' for me,"

Sterling said. "To be here for this dedication and then be there to see these Marines get promoted... it felt pretty god

Sterling said he also approached Hoyos immediately aft the promotion to see how the newly-promoted lance corpor felt about being the "first" Marine promoted here.

"I said, 'Do you know that you're the first person promed on camp Barber?" Sterling asked the Marine. "... he jugave me that good old Marine Corps smile."

Task Force 2/7 is the Marine Corps' first battalion-sized unit to be assigned the mission of training, mentoring and advising the Afghanistan National Police in support of